

REMARKS

By the preceding amendments, the specification and the abstract have been amended, whereby to overcome the relevant objections.

By the preceding amendments claims 16, 17, 18, 20, 22, 24, 25, 27, and 29 have been amended, as explained below, claims 31 and 32 have been cancelled, and claim 33 has been added.

Claim 16 has been amended to be directed to a method for “treating” resin coated decorative papers. Claim 17 has been amended to delete “or another adequate method”. Thus, the undersigned attorney submits that the rejection of claims 16 and 17 and other claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, has been overcome.

Claim 16 also has been amended to refer to a solution of one or more alkaline metal salts delaying hardening “of the resin”, for which the undersigned attorney submits support is found on page 3, in lines 15 and 16. Thus, the undersigned attorney submits that the rejection of claim 16 and other claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, because claim 16 did not recite what “hardening” was meant, has been overcome.

Claim 17 having been amended, as noted above, to delete the expression “or another adequate method”, the undersigned attorney submits that the rejection of claims 17 and 18 and other claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, because claim 17 included said expression, has been overcome.

Claims 18 and 25 have been amended, respectively, to delete the expression “in the desired concentration”. The undersigned attorney submits that the rejection of claims 18 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, because claims 18 and 25 included said expression, has been overcome.

Claims 20 and 27 have been amended, respectively, to substitute the term “solution” for the expression “complete ready-for-print preparation”, for which the undersigned attorney submits support is found on page 6, in lines 20 through 22 and in line 25. The undersigned attorney submits that the rejection of claims 20 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, because claims 20 and 27 included said expression, has been overcome.

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Claims 22 and 29 have been amended, respectively, to delete the expression "depending on the fond volume and the machine speed". The undersigned attorney submits that the rejection of claims 22, 23, 29, and 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, because claims 22 and 29 included said expression, has been overcome.

Claim 33 has been added, which is based to some extent upon claim 17, as filed. However, claim 33 does not include the expression that led to the rejection of claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

The undersigned attorney believes that the preceding amendments and the preceding remarks respond fully to all issues raised in the Office Action noted above. The undersigned attorney invites the patent examiner to telephone him if any issues raised therein remain unresolved or if any issues are raised hereby.

Respectfully submitted,

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